

**A RESOLUTION TO THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN
CONCERNING APPLICATION #5CE146 FOR A 345 KV POWER LINE, THE CARDINAL-
HICKORY CREEK PROJECT, PROPOSED BY THE AMERICAN TRANSMISSION
COMPANY, ITC, AND DAIRYLAND POWER COOPERATIVE, AND CONSIDERATION OF
ALTERNATIVE SOLUTIONS**

WHEREAS, the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin is currently expecting an joint utility application containing an option for a 345 kV high-capacity transmission line from Middleton, Wisconsin to Montfort, Wisconsin to Dubuque County, Iowa; and,

WHEREAS, high-capacity transmission expansion projects increase the likelihood of additional transmission and electric customer investments in Wisconsin and regionally; and,

WHEREAS, the final cost of expansion projects including financing, operation and maintenance over 40 years can reach into billions of dollars and place significant financial burden on all Wisconsin ratepayers in addition to those in other states; and,

WHEREAS, demand for electricity in Wisconsin and adjacent states has been flat or in decline in recent years and utilities in affected service areas have projected no or minimal load growth in planning documents submitted to the PSC; and,

WHEREAS, other means of meeting energy demand claimed by the applicants must be considered, including comparable investment in accelerated energy efficiency, conservation, load management, and local renewable power options before high-capacity transmission is approved; and,

WHEREAS, average ratepayer investment in energy efficiency in the U.S. tripled from 2007 to 2012 to lower end-user costs and harmful emissions while investment in energy efficiency in Wisconsin dropped over the same period; and,

WHEREAS, our responsibilities include protecting and enhancing natural and local economic assets, including scenic beauty and development potential that would be adversely impacted by 110 to 180 foot steel or concrete poles and wires for high voltage transmission; and

WHEREAS, high-profile transmission lines tend to reduce property values and tourism due to their prominent visibility and perceived negative health effects creating adverse impacts on local economies in contrast to non-transmission alternatives such as energy efficiency, load management and local solar which tend to produce positive economic impacts; and,

WHEREAS, Wisconsin State Statute 1.13(2) encourages local governmental units to define their energy planning priorities and State Statute 1.11(2) encourages the WI PSC to study, develop, and describe appropriate alternatives to recommended courses of action for full public consideration before the scoping stage of utility applications and for preparation of the Impact Statement; and,

WHEREAS detailed explanations of the perceived need for regional transmission expansion have not been combined with a comprehensive comparison of long-term investment costs and returns for all energy investment options and provided for Wisconsin ratepayers stated in clear terms of monthly, average potential savings, long-term job creation, and carbon emission impacts.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that

1. The Town of Wyoming in Iowa County requests that all efforts made to develop or enhance the energy system upon which our community relies and adhere to these energy investment priorities:

- a) Maximize cost-effective conservation, efficiency, and load management;
- b) Rely to the greatest extent possible on local, renewable generation;
- c) Support local ownership of energy generation that includes dispersed renewable energy to support the local economy, including the creation of sustainable jobs;
- d) Minimize the size, scale, voltage, and environmental impacts of electric transmission and generation.

2. The Town of Wyoming is without sufficient means to evaluate the current proposal in terms of these priorities.

3. The Town of Wyoming requests the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin require the applicants to provide potentially impacted land owners within 1500' of potential corridors and Wisconsin ratepayers clear, consumer-friendly description of the cost-benefit analysis and assumptions they will utilize in assessing the economic and environmental benefits of non-transmission alternatives including accelerated energy efficiency, load management, distributed generation (on site/community and other local, non-fossil fuel generation) at the open houses and on-line in electronic form during the pre-application, public information stage of this proposal.

4. Following receipt of the application, the Town of Wyoming requests that the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin ensure that the applicants develop this analysis into comprehensive, easy to understand, cost-benefit comparison of the economic and environmental benefits that would result from investments in accelerated energy efficiency, applications of load management and distributed generation (on site/community and other local, non-fossil fuel generation). The dollar amount applied to each of these non-transmission investment options, alone and in optimized combination, should equal the estimated total amount ratepayers would assume for the comprehensive costs of the proposed high voltage transmission project over 40 years including construction, financing, operation and maintenance. We ask that this analysis include clear, easy to understand charts comparing the monetary and CO2 emission impacts for the non-transmission alternatives and transmission alternatives on average monthly electric bills for Wisconsin residential and commercial customers calculated in present dollars/tons and for year 10, 20, 30 and 40, subsequently.

5. The Town of Wyoming requests that the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin require the applicants to incorporate the above requested information in their application materials before the agency deems the application complete and before Notice of Proceeding is given. The town requests that the applicants' analysis of non-transmission alternatives be made available at EIS scoping meetings and its availability mentioned in press releases to media outlets in order to notify potentially affected electric customers.

6. The Town of Wyoming requests that the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin conduct an equally comprehensive analysis and presentation of the economic and environmental impacts of non-transmission alternatives alone and in optimized combination and include this in the agency's draft and final Environmental Impact Statements. In addition to environmental impacts, we ask the EIS assess and compare the impacts on typical rural economies along the potential routes created by the non-transmission alternatives and transmission configurations.

7. The Town of Wyoming requests the Public Service Commission of Wisconsin to record this document in the public record of Docket 05-CE-146 and to include it, in entirety, in the Appendixes of the state and federal Environmental Impact Statements for this proposal.

The person/agent below is authorized to transmit this resolution and other appropriate documents to Wisconsin Public Service Commission on docket #05CE146.

AND, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Town of

WYOMING Board hereby approves the resolution ADOPTED this

Nov 15 day of Nov, 2016.

Signed by: [Signature]
(chair)

Attested by: [Signature]
(clerk)

on this 15th day of NOVEMBER, 2016.

Filing agent's email address TownofWyoma@gmail.com